

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Arild FOLLESTAD et al.
Appl. No.: [Nat'l phase of PCT/NO99/00043] Group Art Unit: [Not Assigned]
Filed: August 4, 2000 Examiner: [Not Assigned]
For: A CATALYST FOR THE (CO)POLYTERMISATION OF ETHYLENE AND A
METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee for the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 3, 4, 6, and 8 as follows:

3. (Amended) A catalyst according to claim 1 [or 2], characterised in that the chromium is mainly in a bivalent oxidation state.

4. (Amended) A catalyst according to claim 1, [2 or 3,] characterised in that the transition metal is selected from the group comprising titanium, zirconium [or] and hafnium.

6. (Amended) A catalyst according to claim 1 [any of claims 1 to 5], characterised in that the catalyst contains 0.4% to 10% by weight of Cr; 0.1% to 0.6% by weight of Zr or Hf; and 5% to 20% by weight of Al; calculated as metals based on the total weight of the catalyst.

8. (Amended) A catalyst according to claim 1 [of any of the preceding claims], characterised in that said catalyst has the shape of spherical or spheroidal particles.

Please add the following new claims 12- 20:

12. (New) A catalyst according to claim 2, characterised in that the chromium is mainly in a bivalent oxidation state

13. (New) A catalyst according to claim 2, characterised in that the transition metal is selected from the group comprising titanium, zirconium and hafnium.

14. (New) A catalyst according to claim 3, characterised in that the transition metal is selected from the group comprising titanium, zirconium and hafnium.

15. (New) A catalyst according to claim 12, characterised in that the transition metal is selected from the group comprising titanium, zirconium and hafnium.

16. (New) A catalyst according to claim 2, characterised in that the catalyst contains 0.4% to 10% by weight of Cr; 0.1% to 0.6% by weight of Zr or Hf; and 5% to 20% by weight of Al; calculated as metals based on the total weight of the catalyst.

17. (New) A catalyst according to claim 3, characterised in that the catalyst contains 0.4% to 10% by weight of Cr; 0.1% to 0.6% by weight of Zr or Hf; and 5% to 20% by weight of Al; calculated as metals based on the total weight of the catalyst.

18. (New) A catalyst according to claim 3, characterised in that the catalyst contains 0.4% to 10% by weight of Cr; 0.1% to 0.6% by weight of Zr or Hf; and 5% to 20% by weight of Al; calculated as metals based on the total weight of the catalyst.